

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HERMOS 00411 031733Z

41

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 /019 W
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P 311645Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 881
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS HERMOSILLO 411

E.O. 11652:

TAGS : CASC MX (FOLLIS, ROBERT)
SUBJECT : W/W REVIEW CASES OF ALL AMCIT PRISONERS

REF: STATE 194199 AND 230071

1. DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS - PER POST FILES, FOLLIS WAS ARRESTED ON FRIDAY , MAY 23, 1975. CONOFF LEARNED OF ARREST ON TUESDAY MAY NH 27, 1975 WHEN FOLLIS APPEARED AT THE REGULAR MONTHLY PRISON VISIT TO NOGALES. DENIAL OF EARLY CONSULAR ACCESS BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS OF CONTINUING CONCERN, AND THE POST LOOKS TO THE EMBASSY TO REACH A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO THIS PROBLEM.

2. ALLEGATION OF ABUSE AT TIME OF ARREST/FORCED CONFESSION - PER POST FILES, FOLLIS ALLEGED ON MAY 27, 1975 THAT HE WAS BEATEN AND TORTURED WITH CATTLE PRODS UNTIL HE AND HIS COMPANION BILL SNYDER CONFESSED THAT THE MARIJUANA FOUND IN A PACKAGE IN A HOTLE ROOM WAS THEIR OWN. FILES CONTAIN A COPY OF A LETTER OF MAY 29, 1975 WHICH CONOFF SENT TO FOLLIS ASKING HIM TO PROVIDE CONOFF WITH WRITTEN ALLEGATION OF TORTURE SO A FORMAL PROTEST MIGHT BE INITIATED. FOLLIS SAID ON DECEMBER 18, 1975 THAT HE NEVER RECEIVED THAT LETTER. HE REPEATED HIS ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE AND TOLD CONOFF HE WOULD GIVE CONOFF A WRITTEN REPORT OF THE INCIDENT AT THE NEXT MONTHLY VISIT IN JANUARY BECAUSE HE DID NOT TRUST THE MAIL. POST ACTION CAN BE INITIATED WHEN FOLLIS' UNCLASSIFIED

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WRITTEN STATEMENT IS RECEIVED.

3. MEDICAL PROBLEMS - PER POST FILES, FOLLIS TOLD CONOFF ON JUNE 26, 1975 THAT HE WAS ALLERGIC TO MUCH OF THE PRISON FOOD AND WASHAVING PROBLEMS WITH ITCHING ALL OVER HIS BODY. HE DID SAY THAT PRISON HAD GIVEN HIM MEDICINE FROM DISPENSARY BUT IT DID NOT HELP. PRISON OFFICIALS WANTED TWENTY DOLLARS TO PUT FOLLIS ON SPECIAL FOOD LIST. CONOFF DID NOT OBSERVE ANY ALLERGY-RELATED PROBLEMS AT TIME OF VISIT. FOLLIS DID NOT COMPLAIN ABOUT FOOD AT DECEMBER 18, 1975 VISIT.

4. INACTION BY ATTORNEY - PER POST FILES, FOLLIS COMPLAINED ON DECEMBER 18, 1975 THAT HE HAD NEVER SEEN HIS PUBLIC DEFENDER NOR HAD ANY CONTACT WITH HIM. FOLLIS WAS SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS, THREEMONTHS IN AUGUST 1975 AND HAS APPEALED HIS CASE. CONOFF AGREED TO FIND OUT NAME OF HIS PUBLIC DEFENDER.

5. CONOFF VISITATION - PER POST FILES, FOLLIS HAS APPEARED FOR MONTHLY INTERVIEWS MAY 27, 1975, JUNE 26 AND DECEMBER 18. HE DID NOT APPEAR AT OTHER MONTHLY SCHEDULED VISITS TO NOGALES. SACKSTEDER

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